

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled and new claims 9-23 have been added.

The Applicant notes with appreciation that in the outstanding Office Action dated March 23, 2007, the Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 5, 7 and 8 if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, new claims 9, 15 and 19 correspond substantially to erstwhile claims 7, 5 and 8, respectively, but have been written in independent form and overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. New claims 9, 15 and 19 also overcome the Examiner's objections because of certain informalities.

Thus, new independent claims 9, 15 and 19 are allowable as written. Claims 10-14, 16-18 and 20-23, which substantially correspond to erstwhile dependent claims 2-8, depend upon allowable claims 9, 15 and 19 and add further limitations thereto, and therefore are patentable for that reason alone. Applicants reserve the right to further support the patentability of these dependent claims, should that become necessary.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 6 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,547,243 to Wadsowrth. With the cancellation of claims 1-4 and 6, Applicant believes that this rejection is rendered moot and respectfully requests its reconsideration and withdrawal.

In addition to canceling claims 1-8 and adding new claims 9-23, the Applicant has also amended the Abstract to remove the objected to phrase "by means of" as well as the term "said."

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. No new matter has been added. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Applicant believes that no fees or petitions for extensions of time are due in connection with the submission of this Response. If any extension of time is required, it is hereby petitioned

for under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and if any other required fee is due, the Commissioner may charge appropriate fees to H.T. Than Law Group, Deposit Account No. 50-1980.

Respectfully submitted,

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